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PTO/SB/01 (12-97)

Approved for use through 9/30/00. OMB 0651-0032

Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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<b>DECLARATION FOR UTILITY OR DESIGN PATENT APPLICATION</b> (37 CFR 1.63)	<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>	RAY4066P0010US
	<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Erol Tan
	<b>COMPLETE IF KNOWN</b>	
	<b>Application Number</b>	/
	<b>Filing Date</b>	
	<b>Group Art Unit</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Declaration Submitted with Initial Filing	OR	<input type="checkbox"/> Declaration Submitted after Initial Filing (surcharge (37 CFR 1.16 (e)) required)
<b>Examiner Name</b>		

**As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:**

My residence, post office address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

**A SOFT, STRONG, ABSORBENT MATERIAL FOR USE IN ABSORBENT ARTICLES**

the specification of which *(Title of the Invention)*

☐ is attached hereto

OR

☒ was filed on (MM/DD/YYYY) **01/15/1998** as United States Application Number or PCT International

Application Number **PCT/US98/00639** and was amended on (MM/DD/YYYY) (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or of any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application Number(s)	Country	Foreign Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Priority Not Claimed	Certified Copy Attached?	
				YES	NO
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

☐ Additional foreign application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto:

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

Application Number(s)	Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)

☐ Additional provisional application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto.

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## DECLARATION — Utility or Design Patent Application

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. 120 of any United States application(s), or 365(c) of any PCT international application designating the United States of America, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

U.S. Parent Application or PCT Parent Number	Parent Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Parent Patent Number (if applicable)
08/948,987 08/784,536	10/10/1997 01/17/1997	

☐ Additional U.S. or PCT international application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto.

As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following registered practitioner(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

☐ Customer Number

OR

☒ Registered practitioner(s) name/registration number listed below

Place Customer  
Number Bar Code  
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Name	Registration Number	Name	Registration Number
Paul M. Odell	28,332	Lisa V. Mueller	38,978
Randall T. Erickson	38,872	Joel E. Siegel	25,440
Stephen D. Geimer	28,846	Paul M. Vargo	29,116
Martin L. Katz	25,011	Allen J. Hoover	24,103
John P. Milnamow	20,635	Keith V. Rockey	24,713

☐ Additional registered practitioner(s) named on supplemental Registered Practitioner Information sheet PTO/SB/02C attached hereto.

Direct all correspondence to: ☐ Customer Number or Bar Code Label

OR ☒ Correspondence address below

Name	Rockey, Milnamow & Katz, Ltd.				
Address	Two Prudential Plaza, Suite 4700				
Address	180 North Stetson Avenue				
City	Chicago	State	IL	ZIP	60601
Country	U.S.A.	Telephone	(312) 616-5400	Fax	(312) 616-5460

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Name of Sole or First Inventor:		<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor			
Given Name (first and middle [if any])		Family Name or Surname			
Erol		Tan			
Inventor's Signature				Date	06/07/99
Residence: City	Zutphen	State		Country	Netherlands
Post Office Address	Het Zwanenvlot 123				
Post Office Address					
City	Zutphen	State		ZIP	7206 CG
				Country	Netherlands

☒ Additional inventors are being named on the supplemental Additional Inventor(s) sheet(s) PTO/SB/02A attached hereto.

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## DECLARATION

ADDITIONAL INVENTOR(S)  
Supplemental Sheet  
Page 2 of 2

<b>Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor					
Given Name (first and middle [if any])				Family Name or Surname			
Peter R.				Abitz			
<b>Inventor's Signature</b>						<b>Date</b>	
<b>Residence: City</b>		St. Simmons Island		<b>State</b>	GA	<b>Country</b>	U.S.A.
<b>Post Office Address</b>		308 Brailsford Pl.					
<b>Post Office Address</b>							
<b>City</b>		St. Simmons Island		<b>State</b>	GA	<b>ZIP</b>	31522
<b>City</b>		St. Simmons Island		<b>State</b>	GA	<b>Country</b>	U.S.A.
<b>Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor					
Given Name (first and middle [if any])				Family Name or Surname			
Kays				Chinai			
<b>Inventor's Signature</b>						<b>Date</b>	
<b>Residence: City</b>		St. Simmons Island		<b>State</b>	GA	<b>Country</b>	U.S.A.
<b>Post Office Address</b>		608 Brockinton Drive					
<b>Post Office Address</b>							
<b>City</b>		St. Simmons Island		<b>State</b>	GA	<b>ZIP</b>	31522
<b>City</b>		St. Simmons Island		<b>State</b>	GA	<b>Country</b>	U.S.A.
<b>Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor					
Given Name (first and middle [if any])				Family Name or Surname			
<b>Inventor's Signature</b>						<b>Date</b>	
<b>Residence: City</b>				<b>State</b>		<b>Country</b>	
<b>Post Office Address</b>							
<b>Post Office Address</b>							
<b>City</b>				<b>State</b>		<b>ZIP</b>	
<b>City</b>				<b>State</b>		<b>Country</b>	

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